

ARTICLE APPEARED
ON PAGE A-2

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Thurmond Cleared of Columnist's Allegations

United Press International

The Justice Department said yesterday that it found "no substantiation whatsoever" to allegations that Sen. Strom Thurmond (R-S.C.) received money from a firm owned by former CIA agent Edwin P. Wilson.

"We have notified the senator that the Department of Justice was closing its inquiry into this matter," Attorney General William French Smith said in a brief statement.

Smith said that the department had completed its probe and had found "no substantiation whatsoever"

er" to allegations against Thurmond that were written in February by columnist Jack Anderson and published in some newspapers.

In a brief statement, Thurmond said the Justice Department's announcement "brings to a close one of the most distasteful chapters of my political career."

In his column, Anderson said a man, whom he did not identify, claimed to have seen Thurmond twice receive envelopes with \$10,000 cash from a middleman allegedly acting for Wilson.